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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/432,855	11/02/1999	DESMOND E. WONG	0100.9901360	1672

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EXAMINER

MENGISTU, AMARE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/432,855

Applicant(s)WONG, DESMOND E. *10***Examiner**

Amare Mengistu

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the “**processing module**” must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seon-Mo Park et al “Digital System for Configuration Detection” 1992 IEEE.

As to claim 1, Seon-Mo Park et al (hereinafter Park) discloses a display connection detection device for monitoring a first node (pin), the connector for coupling the flat panel display (Abstract; page 511, col.1, lines 14-27); asserting a first output signal to indicate the first node is in a first state (see, fig 3 “check

serial port & send data"); receiving the first output signal from a flat panel display controller (page 511, col.2, (4)(5) lines 3-13).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 2- 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seon-Mo Park et al "Digital System for Configuration Detection" 1992 IEEE in view of Johnson et al (5,781,744).

3. In regard to claims 2-17, Park disclose a display connection detection comprising: a signal detection portion having an input coupled to the connector pin to detect a signal received on the connector (see, fig.3, page 511, col.1, lines 14-27, (2) lines 35-47) and have an output to provide an enable signal (page 511, col.1, line 119-27); a flat panel display having an output to provide a display image of the connector (page 511, col.2, (5) lines 11-14); monitoring a first node (pin), the connector for coupling the flat panel display (Abstract; page 511, col.1, lines 14-27); asserting a first output signal to indicate the first node is in a first state (see, fig 3 "*check serial port & send data*") . Park did not explicitly disclose a connector having a pin to receive a signal from a display when the display is hot plugged, a processing module and a memory.

The patent of Johnson et al (hereinafter Johnson) discloses the input/output interface device permits safe connection of a peripheral device (the peripheral device could be a display) to a port of the computer system when the computer system is powered-on (hot-plugged) (see, Abstract, col.3, lines 46-60; col.4, lines 7-22); a processing unit (fig.4 (402)); and a memory unit coupled to the processing unit (fig.4 (408,410)).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have been motivated to use the peripheral connection detection during a hot-plugged as taught by Johnson into the device of Park, since this will provide a safe connecting a peripheral device to a port of a data processing system while the data processing system is powered-on.

4. Claims 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al 95,781,744).

As to claims 18-22, Johnson et al (hereinafter Johnson) discloses an apparatus peripheral connection comprising: a detection a peripheral being disconnected (col.8, lines 43-44); negating an enable signal to the peripheral device (fig.7 (704); col.8, lines 59 – col.9, lines 9, col.9, lines 22-67) and in response and generate an interrupt signal (see, fig.7; col.12, lines 36-57). Johnson discloses detecting the disconnection of a peripheral device, but Johnson did not disclose the detecting the display disconnection. However, one skill in the art would recognize that the disconnected peripheral could be a flat panel display device.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amare Mengistu whose telephone number is (703)305-4880. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F,T-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (703)305-4938. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9314 for regular communications and (703)872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-9600.


Amare Mengistu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2673

Amare Mengistu
September 18, 2002